



Thimble

Author: Rebecca Young

Illustrator: Tull Suwannakit

Published by Scholastic

ISBN: 9781743811627

Synopsis:

When her grandmother's time comes, Mabel finds something left behind. A beautiful story about how a tiny thimble and an unfinished blanket can help mend a heart. □

Author Bio

I grew up in suburban Sydney with two brothers, an old swing set and the scent of gardenias. My days were filled with chalk drawings on driveways, backyard battles, blanket forts, dollhouse drama, journal ramblings ... and lots and lots of picture books.

These days I love working with words and pictures as both a publisher and an author. My first picture book, *Button Boy* (illustrated by Sue deGennaro), was listed as a Notable Book for the 2012 CBCA Awards and has been published internationally. My most recent picture book, *Teacup* (illustrated by Matt Otley), won the Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children's Literature in the NSW Premier's Literary Awards, 2016.

<http://www.rebeccayoung.com.au/>

Illustrator Bio

Tull Suwannakit is a visual artist, children's book author and illustrator with background in animation and fine art. He began his artistic career as a set designer and sculptor for an independent animation studio in New York. His work has been exhibited both locally and internationally, including The National Museum, Szczecin in Poland and included as part of The Australian Children's Book Illustration Exhibition and Rights Catalogue in Bologna, Italy. *What Happens Next?* (Walker Books Australia and UK) was featured in Sydney Morning Herald, ABC Mornings Radio and Play School on ABC4Kids, and was short listed for 2015 Speech Pathology Australia Book of The Year Award. His latest collaborated picture book, *Sad, The Dog* (Walker Books, Australia and Candlewick Press, USA) written by Sandy Fussell gained positive reviews from The Age, Sydney Morning Herald and The New York Times.

Tull's upcoming collaborated picture book projects include, *Stanley's Learning The Trumpet*, written by John field (Scholastic Press, 2017), and *Thimble*, written by Rebecca Young (Scholastic Press, 2018)

When Tull is not writing and illustrating his books, he runs art classes and workshops for children and adults at his art school in Melbourne, Malvern School of Art.

<https://tullsuwannakit.net/>

Curriculum Links

History Foundation [ACHASSK013](#)

How the stories of families and the past can be communicated, for example, through photographs, artefacts, books, oral histories, digital media and museums.

Health and Physical Education [ACPPS005](#)

Themes:

Family
Love
Loss
Hope
Change
Emotions
Healing
Grief
Memory



Pre Reading

This is a book about the death of a grandparent, and the grieving process. Keep this in mind when sharing this with a class, in the event that a class member may have recently lost a loved one.

- Look at the cover
- Read the Title
- Identify the author and illustrator .
- What do you think this story might be about?
- Who knows what a thimble is? If possible have a thimble to share with the class.
- If someone knows, can they describe what its used for.

After Reading

Talk about what happened in the story. **Some children may not have experienced the death of a loved, one, and as this book is told in such a sensitive way they may not understand what has happened. This may also depend on the age of the audience.*

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think Mabel needs to be alone to remember her Grandma.
- Ask what other ways people may react when they are sad about something.
- What are some of the things we can do do help people when they are sad .

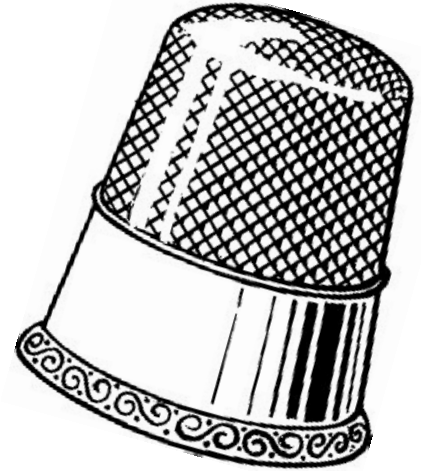
Activity

Mabel remembers her Grandma by being in her house, in her garden, and the silver thimble she finds under her Grandma's chair. There are lots of ways we can remember people.

Think about someone in your family that you have a close connection with.

Why is this person special to you?

Go home and talk to your family about this person and find something that reminds you of them. It could be a 'thing' like the thimble in the story, it could be a photo.



OR

It could be a story that you remember or one that you have been told many times.

Over the course of a week ask the students to present and share their stories/ memories of this special person.

They could be as a presentation in class or they may like to make a video at home to present to the class.

